

Appendix C—Workshop II Report

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
RECREATION PLAN PROJECT

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2
SUMMARY REPORT
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2006 – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Prepared by
PDG & ASSOCIATES

Introduction

This report summarizes the results of the second workshop conducted as a part of the public outreach activities to aide the RECREATION PLAN PROJECT. The workshop was held Wednesday, September 27, 2006 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Mountain View Community Center, located at 201 South Rengstorff Avenue. The Consultant Team worked with City staff to develop and coordinate the workshop. There were 26 residents that attended the workshop. David Muela, Community Services Director, welcomed participants and introduced the Project Team which included staff and the consultants. James Teixeira, Recreation Manager, reviewed the purpose of the plan. The process for the development of the plan was presented by consultant team member, Sheryl Gonzales. An overview of the demographics and important trends or issues was also reviewed to provide a context for the workshop process. Workshop #1 results were reviewed with participants. The workshop purpose was presented followed by its process and launch.

RECREATION PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of the recreation plan is as follows:

1. Ensure that recreation programs and facilities match the current and long-term needs of Mountain View's diverse population.
2. Serve as a companion document to the Parks and Open Space Plan.
3. Assist and guide in recreation planning through the establishment of a systematic approach for assessing and evaluating programs and services.

RECREATION PLAN PROCESS

The process for the development of the Recreation Plan includes three (3) phases. They are listed below with their specific activities and estimated conclusion dates included.

- PHASE I – Data Collection
 - Complete by September, 2006
- PHASE II – Review & Analysis
 - Complete by December, 2006
- PHASE III – Development of plan w/recommendations
 - Complete by March, 2007

COMMUNITY PROFILE – CREATING A CONTEXT

The change in demographics of Mountain View since 1990 to 2006 was reviewed in a power point presentation. Included with that information were trends relative to residents' ages, educational levels, median household income, and housing values.

Major highlights included:

1. Increased foreign born residents

2. Increased diversity of residents
3. Aging population
4. Increase in youth ages 10 to 14 years
 - a. 1990 there were 2,301
 - b. 2000 there were 3,130
 - c. 2005 there were 3,968
5. Steady decrease of residents ages 20-34 years of age
 - a. 1990 there were 24,769
 - b. 2000 there were 22,161
 - c. 2005 there were 18,076
6. Higher percentage of residents with educational attainment (bachelor degree or higher)
7. Median household income has gone from \$42,431 in 1990 to \$75,411 in 2005
8. Median house value has gone from \$347,000 in 1990 to \$663,000 in 2006

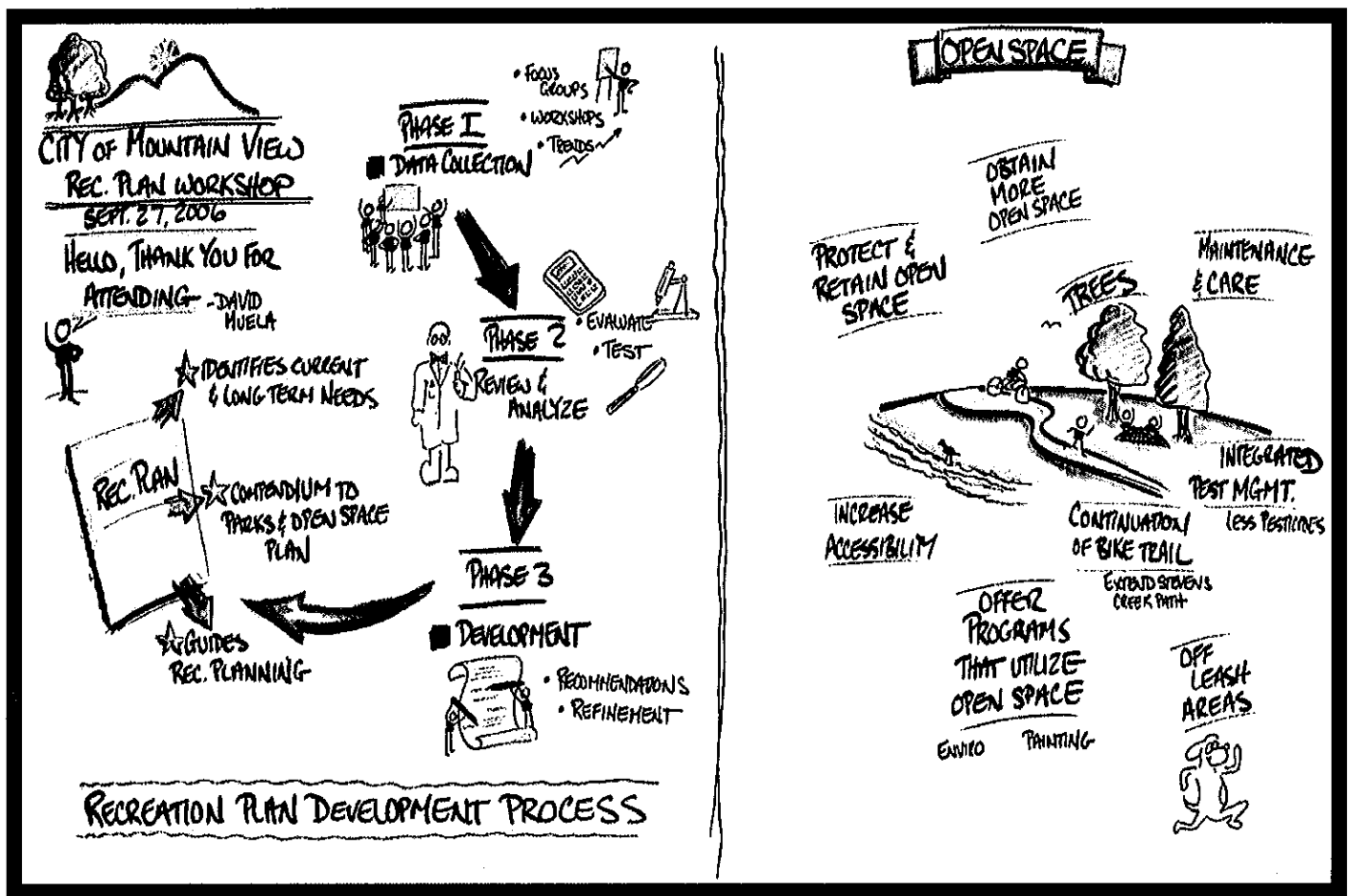
WORKSHOP #1 RESULTS

Community workshop #1 was held on Wednesday, June 7, 2006. The purpose for the workshop was to, (1) Identify the most highly valued community attributes or characteristics that make Mountain View a great place to live, work and play, (2) Discuss issues or trends that may be negatively impacting those valued characteristics/attributes, (3) Determine the role of parks, recreation and community services in how it might mitigate those issues or trends to preserve and promote the attributes or characteristics. The results are found in the graphic below:

TOPIC 1 CHARACTERISTICS/ATTRIBUTES	TOPIC 2 ISSUES OR TRENDS	TOPIC 3 ROLE OF RECREATION
Places to gather (Parks, trails, open space, downtown, library)	Loss of open space through development	Maintaining facilities & open space
Family friendly community	High density through housing & population	Youth programming (On school sites academic, sports, etc.)
Safe & secure	Low income families affording/accessing programs & services	Promoting community that is accessible for all

WORKSHOP #2 PURPOSE

The purpose of Community Workshop #2 was to identify what the Mountain View Recreation Plan will do for residents and the community at large through recreation programs, services and facilities; and identify what these programs, services and facilities are supporting in terms of the preferred quality of life for Mountain View residents. Examples include active-healthy lifestyles, sense of community, belonging, strong families, youth development, etc.



WORKSHOP FORMAT

At the conclusion of the power point presentation, participants were asked to form a circle. At the center of the circle was a small table with blank sheets of paper and magic markers. The agenda for the evening's discussion was created by the participants based on the following theme/question:

What are the most important recreation programs and facilities that will best support the Mountain View community and why?

Everyone was invited to respond to the theme/question by writing their thoughts and perceptions on a paper from the middle of the circle. They announced their idea to the group and then the idea was posted on a wall, known as the community bulletin board. Workshop participants could present and have posted as many responses for discussion as time allowed. This portion of the workshop was given fifteen (15) minutes. Staff and the consultant team finalized the agenda by creating three topics from the various participant posted responses on the community bulletin board. Three agenda items were developed for the evening's discussion. Participants were separated into three (3) groups by counting off by three (3) and being assigned a number from one (1) to three (3). Everyone went to their respective area based on the number assigned to them. The three agenda topics identified from the various issues and thoughts brought forward included:

1. Open Space
2. Facilities
3. Programs, services and activities

For a summary of the Community Bulletin Board, as well as a complete list of all community postings identified by participants at the workshop, see Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATIONS & SUMMARY

Each agenda topic was discussed for 20-25 minutes. Groups rotated from each of the three (3) topic areas after the conclusion of the 25 minutes. This approach afforded each member of the workshop the ability to discuss all three topics. Staff served as facilitators and scribes for each of the three topic areas. Their role was to convene each of the three groups to discuss the respective agenda topic. After all groups had rotated and discussed each of the three topics, there was a short break. During this time, the staff summarized the results of the discussions and presented their findings for review and refinement by everyone in the groups. Consultant team member, Greg Gollaher, recorded the evening's discussions in a graphic recording format, which is included with this report.

Topic I: OPEN SPACE

Five main categories were identified and are listed below with their associated recommendations:

Maintenance of existing open space

- Fix trees rather than remove them
 - Improve maintenance of trees
- Less use of water and pesticides
- Restore plant life to be native

Existing open space – improvement and expansions

- Maintain existing open space
- Trails
 - Establish an alternative trail entrance from San Antonio due to safety concerns
 - Extend Stevens Creek Trail
 - Expand bike trails into Los Altos area
 - Add trails to bay land
 - Add trails to open space
 - Add bike paths to all open space
- Increase lighting in open space for use during evening hours
- Put lights at Shoreline
- Utilize open space for preserving plant and animal life
- Improve accessibility to open space
- Cuesta Annex
 - Keep Cuesta Annex
 - Plant more trees in Cuesta Annex
 - Use Cuesta Annex for park space and athletic fields
 - Cuesta Annex can be utilized as a historical/demonstration area as open space
 - Grant/Cuesta is an opportunity for open space
 - Grant/Cuesta can be used for farming space

New facilities relative to open space

- Acquire more open space
- Create a heritage orchard park/open space
- Need more mini parks within high density areas
- Provide parking underground of open space areas

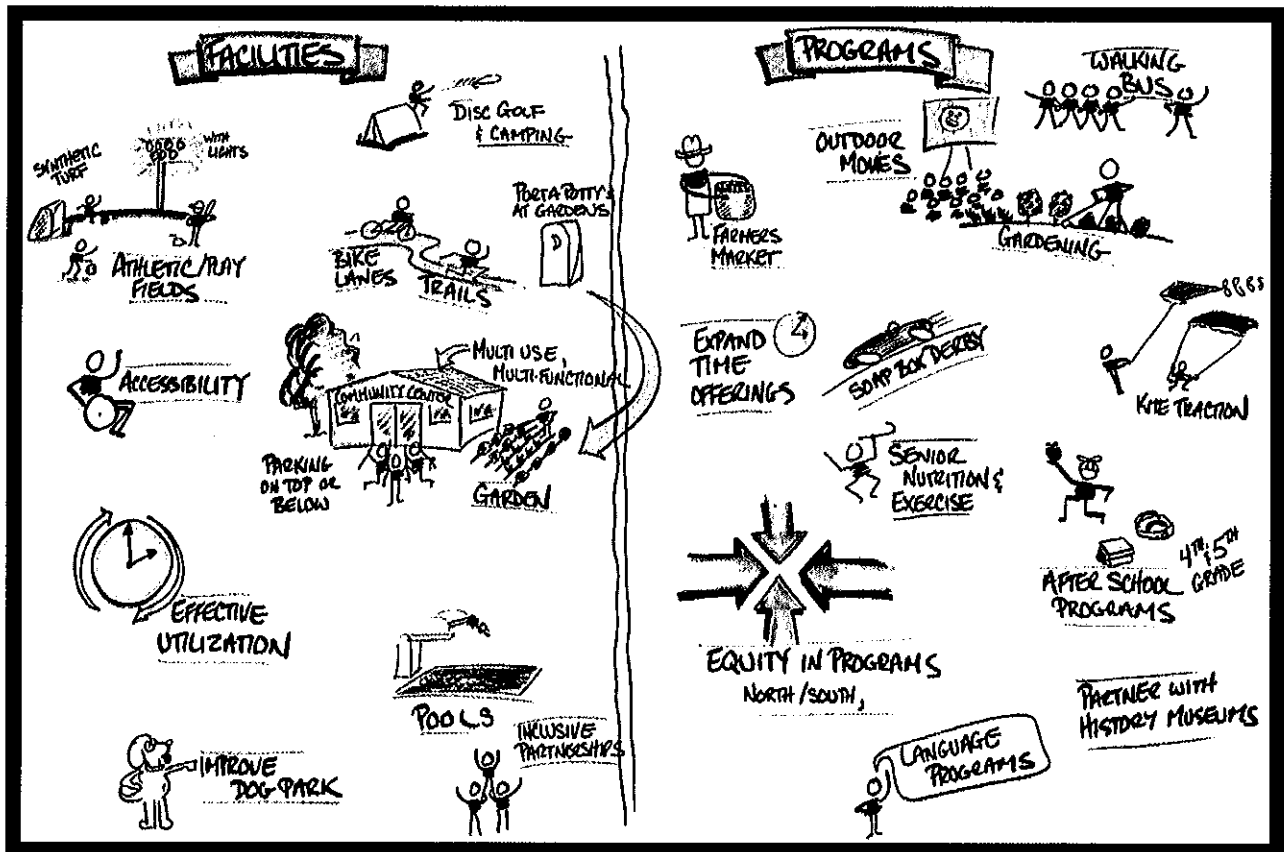
Programs/activities

- Offer nature walks and bike rides on trails
- Use open space for environmental education
- Educational programs need to be placed in open space
- Educate public on open space usage
- Use open space for health and wellness, physical fitness programs
- Program geocaching, survival skills, painting in open space

Administrative/Policy Considerations

- Recognize open space as a facility
- Hire more park rangers

- Increase awareness of programs through promotion and marketing
- Ensure need for more athletic fields to maintain existing open space
- Utilize park fees for developers to use in the neighborhood for parks and open space
- Use open space as an opportunity to let dogs run without a leash
- Become a resource and referral with maps, etc., for available open space in the area and region
- Do a cost benefit analysis for bike trails versus open space



Topic II: RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Three main categories were identified and are listed below with their associated recommendations:

Maintenance of existing facilities

- Dog park
 - Maintain at standards implemented at other parks
 - Keep it cleaner
- Biking trails
 - Check curb cut throughout the city
 - Ensure they are ADA accessible
 - Ensure adult size tricycles can be utilized safely on trails
 - Ensure bike lanes are user friendly

- Athletic Fields
 - Improve time management of fields
 - Examine field usage for effective use of fields
- Park issues
 - Establish or expand gopher abatement program – Cuesta Park
- General maintenance issues
 - Develop a facility maintenance plan
 - Bathrooms need to be kept cleaner
 - Consider utilizing volunteers for the maintenance of parks and facilities

Existing facilities – improvements, expansions

- Dog Park
 - Put in shade structures
- Kite Park
 - Defined kite traction area
 - Open space up for multi use
 - Parking is an issue
- Skate park
 - Update existing skate park
- Community Center
 - Renovate/rebuild
 - Does not meet the needs of residents
 - Expand hours for increased usage during the evening
- Expand community garden space
 - Put in a bathroom

New facilities and amenities

- Pool
- Multi use/functional facility with a gym, parking on top of building
 - Lighted areas
 - Combined facilities to increase/maintain open space
- Park amenities
 - Picnic tables
 - Benches
 - Increase shade
- Bathrooms
 - In every park
 - At community gardens
- Trails
 - Increase bike and hiking trails
 - ADA trails at Annex
 - Connect trails to neighborhoods
 - Trails/paths throughout the City
 - Design trails like Steven's Creek Trail
 - Trails at west end of town – Foothill to Shoreline
- Dog park
- Disc golf
- Heritage Museum
- More athletic fields
 - Synthetic fields
 - Lighted fields

→ Put in north Bayshore area where there are no neighborhoods

- Camping Facilities
- Community Garden
- Tennis Centers
- Mini Parks and playgrounds
- Gyms

Benefits/outcomes intended from the list of recommendations

Health and wellness
Accessibility
Celebrating diversity
Lifelong learning
Youth Development
Community building
Sense of community
Sense of pride
Safety and security
Stewarding the environment
Promoting strong family
Expanding community capacity

Topic III: PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Five main categories were identified and are listed below with their associated recommendations:

Expand community programs

- Promote outdoor movies
- History/heritage programs
- Event celebrating diversity of community
- Add another day for the farmers' market

Seniors

- Exercise programs

Adults

- Exercise programs

Youth development

- After school sports for 4th & 5th graders
- Boxing with PAL
- Nutritional education
- Soapbox derby
- More biking and walking to school
- Walking bus program where kids from neighborhood walk together to school
- Nature education for kids

Intergenerational programs

- Bicycle safety and maintenance classes
- Gardening
- Master gardening classes
- Language programs (use volunteers)

- Nature education programs
- Offer nature walks and bike rides on trails

Benefits/outcomes intended from the list of recommendations

Health and wellness
Accessibility
Celebrating diversity
Lifelong learning
Youth Development
Safety and security
Stewarding the environment
Promoting strong family
Expanding community capacity

Other consideration relative to administrative/policy considerations included:

Increased partnering with businesses
Increased partnering with the school district
Partner with school gardens
Continue partnering with senior nutrition program
Require third party insurance for kite flyers
Promote healthy eating at schools
Stevens Creek Trail at 85 is a safety issue
Coordinate with neighborhood associations
Promote green sustainability building

APPENDIX

LISTING OF ALL RESPONSES CATEGORIZED BY AGENDA ITEM:

Open Space

Preserve open space
Traction for kites
Indoor usage versus outdoor usage
Preserve open space
No ball fields in open space
Recreation needs to extend beyond just organized sports
Keep a working farm on Grant Road
Run like the farm at Rancho San Antonio
Preserve undeveloped open space at Cuesta Annex
Higher density is requiring more open space and parks

Facilities

More, safer bicycle trails because war uses oil, gas prices go up
Seniors need a safe way to get around town on bicycle trails
Stevens Creek Trail continuation across ECR all the way to Foothill Expy.
More sports fields
More playing fields for youth and adults
We need swimming pools
A large multi story, multi use community center out at Shoreline with an indoor track, multi lap pool, meeting rooms, billiards with an emphasis on those that are 55 years and over.
Multi use modern outdoor sport fields
Dogs like to run – more and bigger dog parks
More bike and walking trails
Seed Mtn. View's dog park off of Shoreline
More athletic fields
Places where older people to enjoy nature and to see how Mtn. View was in the past. To enjoy our Heritage such as a heritage orchard.
More community garden spaces because war takes up oil therefore gas prices go up therefore food prices go up because gas is needed to transport and oil for fertilizer.
Park playground equipment – swings, sand
Youth sports fields
Weekend and night facility usage
Community history/heritage center
New recreation center at Rengstorff
Adequate aquatics facilities to support programs and to not adversely affect them when they need to grow
Continue community gardens
Community gardens
Improve bicycle friendliness – they are already great but improve bike land maintenance, traffic light sensors

Programs

Soap box derby for kids 8 to 12 years

Boxing program

Coordinate with youth service providers such as PAL

Work with school district to provide physical education programs

Find ways to reduce alleviate the crosstown rivalry for park space

Youth athletic programs such as camps

Better partnering with schools for use of facilities and programs

Define what is "important" "community" and "time frame"

Expand farmers market program – another morning as well as Sundays

We need programs where different generations interact such as crafts, gardening, reading

More volunteering opportunities in community

Make sure the "farmers" at the farmer market are really farmers and not distributors

Look at times of providing programs to better fit the community

Outdoor education nature programs for our city, children and adults

Determine overlap of civil defense emergency plans with recreation plans if any

Address language issues

Important traffic control at Stevens Creek-Moffett Blvd.

Promote better bicycle information

Sponsor a bike/walk to school day

More community festivals related to other than merchandising such as ethnic festivals, etc.